Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Tuesday 23 Jan 2024 until 23:59 on Wednesday 24 Jan 2024

Forecast Issued on Monday 22 Jan 2024 at 16:21

Confidence: High for remaining unsettled and generally windy through the coming days.

Headline for Tuesday 23 Jan 2024: Occasionally heavy rain spreading east this morning. Strengthening winds

Mountain weather hazards on Tuesday 23 Jan 2024

Blizzards
No Likelihood

Gales
High Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
No Likelihood

Severe chill effect
Medium Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
High Likelihood

Storm force winds
Medium Likelihood

Poor visibility
High Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Partly cloudy (night)	Partly cloudy (night)	Partly cloudy (night)	Cloudy	Heavy Rain	Heavy Rain	Light rain	Light rain showers (night)
Precipitation probability							
10%	<05%	<05%	40%	>95%	80%	60%	30%

Forecast for Tuesday 23 Jan 2024

Weather: Mainly dry with some long clear spells through the early hours, although cloud above the summits increasing towards dawn. A mostly cloudy start with outbreaks of rain reaching western fells soon after dawn, the rain, falling briefly as sleet or wet snow on the higher summits, then spreading east through the morning and becoming heavy and persistent. The rain continues through the afternoon with conditions underfoot very wet due to the current and recent rainfall, before clearing eastwards through the late afternoon and evening with occasional showers and clear spells following, the showers perhaps turning wintry towards midnight on the highest summits

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Around 75% at first but falling to zero through the morning, chances improve again later.

Low cloud and visibility: Occasional cloud above about 600-750m at first, and again in evening, becoming more persistent through the morning and lowering to 450m at times with patches below. Away from cloud visibility good or very good falling to just a few kilometres in heavier rain, and any summit wintriness.

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Forecast for Tuesday 23 Jan 2024

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	45/58 W	36/45 W	31/39 SW	39/49 S	53/66 S	58/75 SW	62/83 SW	64/87 SW	61/85 SW
600	34/48 W	27/39 W	23/33 SW	31/44 S	38/54 S	39/56 SW	45/67 SW	48/72 SW	46/71 SW
300	15/39 W	11/29 W	10/25 SW	12/32 S	11/34 S	16/43 SW	21/52 SW	22/57 SW	23/57 SW
Valley	14/35 W	10/27 W	9/23 SW	12/30 S	13/35 S	19/44 SW	24/52 SW	26/55 SW	28/56 SW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-1/-11	-1/-10	-0/-8	0/-8	3/-5	6/-2	6/-2	3/-6	2/-7
600	2/-6	2/-6	2/-5	2/-6	4/-3	8/2	7/1	6/-2	4/-3
300	4/-0	4/-0	4/0	4/-1	5/2	9/5	9/5	8/4	7/2
Valley	6/2	6/3	6/4	6/2	8/5	10/7	10/6	10/6	9/5
Freezing Level*	800m	800m	800m	1300m	2500m	2700m	1900m	1300m	1200m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Gusts around 70mph over ridges and summits, easing for a time through the early hours, winds then strengthening through the afternoon with gusts around 95mph expected over ridges and summits by early evening. Significant chill effect enhanced by the heavy rain.

Forecast for Wednesday 24 Jan 2024

Weather: Clear or sunny spells and a few morning showers, perhaps wintry on the higher summits, but the afternoon looking mainly dry.

Maximum wind: Westerly 45-55mph, gusts around 90mph over ridges and summits, gradually easing 25-30mph, gusts around 50mph, by early afternoon, then backing southwesterly 10-15mph through the evening.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Around 75% through the morning improving close to 100% in afternoon.

Low cloud and visibility: Occasional cloud above 600-750m through the morning, the cloud lifting above the summits for the afternoon. Away from cloud, visibility very good, falling to just a few kilometres in any summit wintry showers.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Around plus 6 or 7 Celsius at dawn rising to plus 10 Celsius
At 800m: Around plus 3 Celsius falling to zero by evening
Freezing level: Above the summits slowly falling to 800m

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Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Monday 22 January 2024 Location: Helvellyn summit at 14:10. Full report: Storm Isha swept through the National Park overnight bringing storm force winds, torrential rain and localised flooding. Some paths and access tracks have suffered extensive damage due to the volume of water flowing off the hills. Many streams and rivers are now in spate with localised flooding and some stream crossings may become impassable with further heavy rain forecast. Following the weekend's turbo thaw the vast majority of the Lake District fells are clear of snow but there are significant areas that still require the correct winter equipment and skills. The remaining snow cover is generally to be found on north through east aspects above 700m, in gullies and behind features. Interestingly much of this remaining snow and unstable cornices have been pebble-dashed by flying rocks propelled by the 100mph winds last night! The east face of Helvellyn and Striding and Swirral Edges are still very much in full winter condition and crampons and an ice axe were essential for a safe climb and descent today. A thin layer of fresh snow was settling down to 600m during our approach but rose towards 700m later in the day. The freezing level dropped to around 850m firming up the snow at higher elevations and there was plenty of graupel being blown around meaning that goggles were essential. Full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat and gloves), mountain boots and equipment including a torch, map and compass combined with the skills to use them and some sound mountain judgement should be essential for anyone venturing onto the fells. Crampons & an ice axe also required if your route takes you onto snow covered exposed and consequential ground such as the Helvellyn Edges. Temperature: minus 0.8 C, Maximum wind speed 49.2 mph, Wind chill: minus 10.4 C, Average wind speed: 36.8 mph

Issued at: 1621 on Mon 22 Jan 2024

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